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IMPACT UPDATE

Protecting, Preventing, Providing

Larry Hogan
Governor

Boyd K. Rutherford
Lt. Governor

Colonel William Pallozzi
Superintendent

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The recently restored MSP K9 cemetery was rededicated during a ceremony in Easton.

Once Dormant, MSP K9 Cemetery Rededicated In Easton

(EASTON, MD) — More than 150 people gathered Oct. 1 at the Maryland State Police Easton Barrack for the rededication ceremony of the department's K9 Cemetery.

The ceremony represented the culmination of more than two years of work spearheaded by Lt. Robert Connolly, along with retired troopers, local Boy Scouts and other community volunteers, to restore the cemetery.

The cemetery was established in 1968 by the late Tfc. Gerald Webb, who piloted the Maryland State Trooper K9 Dog Corps. However in recent years, the cemetery had

fallen into disrepair, something Lt. Connolly, now the commander of the Centreville Barrack, sought to change during his time as the Easton Barrack commander.

The restoration effort included having debris and brush removed from the site. The cemetery now includes 17 headstones representing those buried there, along with a bronze German shepherd and a sign with the Rainbow Bridge poem on it.

"The dogs that are here, they deserve this. They kind of got forgotten and that's not OK," says Lt. Connolly in an interview with WMDT.



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PHOTOS: K9 Cemetery Rededication Ceremony





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Veteran Trooper Recognized By Governor Hogan For Outstanding Volunteer Work

(ANNAPOLIS, MD) — Each year, Governor Larry Hogan recognizes Marylanders for their volunteer contributions to the state and its citizens by presenting the Governor's Service Awards to those who put forth the extra effort to help change Maryland for the better.

Recipients of these awards have demonstrated a significant commitment to the needs of our communities. They have engaged in meaningful volunteer service and have made a great impact in some way, by volunteering their time.

Among those recognized during a reception on Oct. 21 in Annapolis was Sgt. Adam Davies. Davies, a 21-year veteran of the department assigned to the Aviation Command, received the Governor's Service Award this year and is recognized as an "Outstanding Maryland Volunteer."

Sgt. Davies, who works aboard Trooper 2 at the Washington Section of the Maryland State Police Aviation Command, was recognized for his volunteer efforts last year, recording over 500 hours as a firefighter and



Gov. Larry Hogan recognizes "Outstanding Maryland Volunteers at the 36th annual Governor's Service Awards Ceremony (Photos courtesy Office of the Governor)

paramedic in Calvert County.

During his off time, Sgt. Davies also provided education to first responders around the state about helicopter operations to improve safety for crews. He presented the safety information to all seven volunteer fire companies in Calvert County, the Annapolis Fire Department, three stations and a recruit class at the Anne Arundel County Fire Department, four stations of the Prince George's County Fire Department, the entire Prince George's County SWAT and tactical EMS

teams, the US Secret Service SWAT team and the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

Sgt. Davies' initiative led him to serve in two extra volunteer roles: as a program manager and the quality assurance officer. He was later promoted to deputy chief of operations at Calvert Advanced Life Support.

Sgt. Davies is just one example of the many dedicated men and women of the Maryland State Police who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to make a difference.



Gov. Larry Hogan recognizes Sgt. Adam Davies as an "Outstanding Maryland Volunteer." (Photos courtesy Office of the Governor)



IMPACT UPDATE

Vehicle Theft Prevention Council Celebrates 25 Years Of Making A Difference In Maryland

(PIKESVILLE, MD) – October marks the 25th anniversary of the Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council, a strategy that has proven to be highly successful in reducing vehicle theft rates while recognizing how the crime has changed.

Created in 1994 by the Maryland General Assembly, the Vehicle Theft Prevention Council embraced a statewide strategy directed at public awareness, vehicle theft by juveniles, law enforcement and prosecution through a grant award process. Since its inception, overall vehicle theft rates in Maryland have been reduced by over 68% for an estimated economic savings of over \$200 million.

“Vehicle theft has come a long way from the days of teenagers stealing vehicles simply for the cheap thrill,” says Christopher McDonold, Executive Director of the Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council. “Although the numbers indicate an overall decline in auto theft, the crime has advanced beyond traditional methods into a crime of opportunity.”

The stolen vehicle is commonly a precursor to other violent crimes; for instance, criminals do not rob banks, engage in shootings, or terrorism in their own car. The

theft of a vehicle is usually the first act in a string of violent crimes.



other related crimes run the gamut from juvenile crime sprees to identity theft or home burglary because mail or credit cards or a garage opener was left in the car. In other cases, organized crime groups filling orders on the black market quickly export high-end cars to other countries.

Today, there are many reasons why vehicles are stolen. One of the most common reasons for vehicle theft is the ability to generate profit from organized vehicle theft activities. Stolen vehicles are profitable, either intact or parted out.

Today, auto theft investigators and law enforcement officers are tasked with solving a growing list of vehicle-related crimes.

Additionally, new technology and resources are needed to remain equipped to stay current on new crime trends. Therefore, it makes sense to broaden the definition of our work to explain the modern-day reality of our crime prevention efforts.

For instance, the emerging threat of motor vehicle cybersecurity requires new skills and training for investigators. The Vehicle Theft Prevention Council provides ongoing training to law enforcement to identify, prepare, and train our resources to combat this and other highly technical, emerging threats to vehicles, people, and property.

The Vehicle Theft Prevention Council continues to have a robust public awareness campaign via social media, a PSA contest with local colleges and universities and a media campaign with local news outlets.

Through grant awards, the Council also supports programs intended to reduce motor vehicle theft, improve administration of motor vehicle theft laws, improve or create programs to eliminate vehicle theft by juveniles, enhance vehicle theft prosecutorial efforts, inform motor vehicle owners of the financial and social costs of vehicle theft, and teach methods of motor vehicle theft prevention.



IMPACT UPDATE

Safety Tip of the Month

Aggressive driving violations involve a combination of behaviors that endanger people or property. Maryland law dictates that at least three of the following are observed:

- Traffic light violations;
- Overtaking and passing another vehicle;
- Passing on the right;
- Driving on a laned roadway;
- Tailgating, or following another driver too closely;
- Failing to yield when other drivers have the right-of-way;
- Exceeding the speed limit.

For aggressive driving violations, you'll receive five points on your license and a \$370 fine.



Maryland State Police Honored For Work Combatting Aggressive Driving

Twenty-one state troopers were recognized Sept. 24 by the Maryland Highway Safety Office for their enforcement efforts to combat aggressive driving in 2019.

Maryland's ADAPT (Aggressive Drivers Are Public Threats) program is an aggressive driving enforcement campaign that combines a focused media campaign with active traffic law enforcement. On average, three out of every 10 crashes are caused by an aggressive driver. This behavior causes the driver to be a danger to themselves and others.

ADAPT encourages drivers to recognize aggressive behavior and take control of their driving. Participating law enforcement agencies target aggressive drivers by conducting focused traffic safety enforcement "waves" over a six-month period.

The education portion takes place through the media that includes billboards, radio, and television public service announcements directed at the target audience—drivers between the ages of 18 and 34.



IMPACT UPDATE



Career Night Attracts Hundreds Of Candidates Interested In Public Safety, First Responder Jobs

(FREDERICK, MD) — Hundreds came out on Sept. 26 to the Frederick County Law Enforcement Center for the third annual “Career Night” event.

This event sponsored recruiters in career fields of national security, public safety and emergency services, including Maryland State Police. More than 30 agencies were represented, including all military branches and National Guard; federal, state and local law enforcement; Frederick County Fire and Rescue Services; federal, state, and local corrections agencies, and state and local 911 dispatchers.

This event was open to the public, especially those seriously seeking careers in these fields. Sixty-two colleges and universities from the Tri-State area received invitations to this great event. There were colorful demonstrations throughout the evening. Last year's event brought approximately 1,500 students and others with interests in military,



law enforcement, fire and rescue, first responders and dispatch. This year, we expanded our reach to additional colleges and schools throughout the entire state of Maryland and to colleges in neighboring states.



IMPACT UPDATE



MSP, MDOT SHA Partner To Educate Public On 'Move Over' Laws

(PIKESVILLE, MD) – October represented the one-year anniversary of Maryland's "Move Over" law being expanded to include all service vehicles on state roads.

The Maryland State Police and the Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration used this milestone as a reminder of just how important it is for motorists to adhere to these vital motor vehicle safety laws. So far in 2019, 29 law enforcement officers have been killed nationally in traffic-related crashes.

Maryland's "Move Over" law requires drivers approaching from the rear of an emergency or service vehicle using visual signals while stopped on a highway to, if possible, make a lane change into an available lane not immediately

adjacent to the emergency vehicle.

This movement should only be done if another lane in the same direction is available and the move can be made safely and without impeding other traffic. If moving to another lane away from the stopped emergency vehicle is not possible, the law requires drivers to slow to a reasonable and prudent speed that is safe for existing weather, road, and vehicular or pedestrian traffic conditions.

The intent of the law is to provide an extra barrier of safety for police officers, fire fighters, emergency rescue personnel and service and utility workers working along Maryland roads.

The original law went into effect in 2010. In 2014, the law was expanded to not only include police cars but also, tow trucks,

fire trucks and medical and rescue trucks as well.

On Oct. 1, 2018, the law expanded again to include transportation, service and utility vehicles, as well as waste and recycling trucks, with yellow or amber flashing lights or signal devices.

In 2014, troopers issued 5,408 citations and 12,179 warnings for move over violations. In 2018, troopers issued 1,349 citations and 5,677 warnings. Through Sept. 26, 2019, troopers have issued 1,347 citations and 4,979 warnings for similar violations.

From 2014 to 2018, more than 3,400 people were injured, and 46 people were killed in work zone crashes in Maryland.

Questions or comments? Email us at msh.media@maryland.gov or call 410-653-4236



IMPACT UPDATE

State Troopers, Allied Agencies Partner For 'Cops On Top' Event For SOMD

(ELKTON, MD) — Maryland state troopers once again went above and beyond the call of duty to help support Special Olympics Maryland.

The Maryland State Police North East Barrack, Maryland State Police Criminal Enforcement Division and Special Investigations Section along with the Cecil County Sheriff's Office, the North East Police Department and others in the community gathered on Sept. 20 for the Cecil County Law Enforcement "Cops on Top" event to benefit Special Olympics Maryland.

The event was held at the Chick-fil-A, located at 1100 E. Pulaski



Members of the Cecil County law enforcement community recently raised \$2,290.12 for Special Olympics Maryland through their "Cops on Top" event at Chick-fil-A in Elkton, Maryland.

Highway in Elkton, Maryland. From 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., law

enforcement officers from the area staged on top of the roof of the restaurant to raise and lower a bucket by the drive-thru window, selling Special Olympics Maryland T-shirts and hats. The troopers, deputies and officers spoke to patrons about the event in an effort to raise awareness for Special Olympics Maryland while raising money for its cause.

The event this year raised \$2,290.12 for the organization. This was the second Special Olympics Maryland event that Cecil County Law Enforcement hosted this year.

The Cecil County Torch Run was held on June 3, 2019 and raised \$3,018.



'Troopers On Top' For Special Olympics Maryland!



IMPACT UPDATE

Leonardtown Barrack Hosts Open House

(LEONARDTOWN, Md.) — The Maryland State Police Leonardtown Barrack, in conjunction with the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office and Department of Emergency Services, hosted a Public Safety Open House on Oct. 19. Members of the community were invited to attend this free event. The open house had several live action demonstrations, food vendors and activities for people of all ages. The

purpose of the open house was to display the many various services the Maryland State Police provide to the citizens of Maryland.

There were both static displays and demonstrations by various MSP units to include motorcycles, K-9's, bomb disposal, crime scene technicians, SWAT, divers and many more. A primary focus of the event was recruiting for careers in public safety and service. Recruiters from



the Maryland State Police as well as numerous other state and local agencies were on hand to answer questions and take applications.

'Operation 70 Sweep' Tackles Commercial Vehicle Crashes

In order to combat the rise in commercial motor vehicle collisions and incidents on Interstate 70, the Maryland State Police Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division, Western Region conducted the first wave of "Operation 70 Sweep."

The three-day initiative, which took place from Sept. 16 to 18, identified commercial vehicles violating Maryland motor vehicle laws. The initiative encompassed Howard, Frederick and Washington

counties. The goal of the initiative was to reduce traffic crashes and combat criminal behavior along I-70.

The initiative yielded the following results:

- 231 commercial motor vehicle inspections
- 33 vehicles placed out of service
- 27 drivers placed out of service
- 5 overweight vehicles
- 37 citations for equipment violations
- 4 citations for log book violations
- 176 warnings for equipment or log book violations
- 22 speeding violations
- 31 seat belt violations
- 1 cellphone violation
- 1 move over violation
- 1 DUI arrest
- 6 must appear violations (suspended/revoked)
- 17 other violations

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Lewis Tree Service volunteered its services to help clear branches and debris from the home of retired Trooper Lee Upperco, who along with his wife, have been dealing with health issues and needed assistance.

Retired Troopers Rally Support For Fellow Retiree In Need

(PERRYVILLE, MD) — The Maryland State Police is not just a place of employment, it's a family. That family does not go away once you leave the job.

This was the case recently as a group of retired troopers reached out to help one of their own in need. Retired Sergeant Lee Upperco and his wife were bed-ridden and dealing with significant health issues and also the loss of their daughter, Nancy, to cancer. Lee Upperco was later hospitalized and, unfortunately, passed away late last month.

Another daughter, Lisa Neary, left her job as a registered nurse in order to care for her family. On top of that, the family's home in Cecil Co. was in need of significant repairs that they were unable to complete due to their health issues.

Enter retired State Police Sergeant Mark Ward and Sergeant Henry (Butch) Bowker. When they became aware of the Upperco family's predicament, the pair jumped into action and called on the State Police family for help.

The group of retired troopers were soon able to obtain the services of Lewis Tree Service, who

volunteered to come in and remove tree branches and debris that were causing damage to the Upperco family's home.

While at the residence, retired First Sergeant Bernie Shaw presented a \$1,000 check to Lee and his family from the Maryland Trooper's Foundation. Shaw also told them a matching \$1,000 donation from the Maryland Troopers Association and an amount of \$250 from Lodge 96 has been set aside for the family.

There has been an outpouring of financial help from retirees funneled to the Maryland State Police Alumni Association, which will assist the family further in an attempt to rectify some of the non-functioning home systems such as the HVAC and laundry sump pump. We salute Lewis Tree Service and their employees for their compassion and sincere desire to help community members in need.

We are blessed to have such a wonderful family that is the Maryland State Police. The way many have responded to the plight of the Upperco family is another example of why those in the Maryland State Police are considered "Maryland's Finest."

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IMPACT UPDATE

MSP Troopers, Civilians, Hit The Ice With New Hockey Team

Eighteen months ago, First Sgt. Tom began thinking about forming an ice hockey team consisting of Maryland State Police personnel that could compete in the World Police Fire Games in 2021 in Rotterdam, Denmark.

A big step toward accomplishing that goal came on Sept. 13 when the Maryland State Police Honey Badgers took to the ice against the Anne Arundel County Pickheads in the first ever ice hockey game in MSP history. The Honey Badgers won the game, 1-0, thanks to a goal from TFC Steve Gallagher.

Through five games, the MSP squad was 3-2 and was tied for first place in the co-ed Maryland Heroes Hockey League. The league is based at the Gardens Ice House in Laurel, Maryland.

There was extra pomp and circumstance at the Honey Badgers' inaugural game as Maryland State Superintendent Col. William Pallozzi performed the historic, first ever puck drop in team history.

The Maryland State Police color guard was also present at the game and included F/Sgt. Jay Robinson, Sr. Trooper Ernest Lazard, Sr. Trooper Rodney Byrd, TFC Mary F. Zentkovich, Trooper Genesis Cruz and Trooper Andy Carr.



The MSP Honey Badgers are a new ice hockey team comprised of current, former and retired state police troopers and personnel.

Trooper Carr also sang a great rendition of the National Anthem prior to the game. The Honey Badgers' home uniforms and practice pucks were purchased by team sponsors the Maryland Troopers Association and the Germantown, Maryland-based Steve Geyers Towing.

Overall, the Honey Badgers' roster consists of 22 active, retired or former troopers and MSP civilian employees, whose hockey experience ranges from beginners to college level play.

The other teams in the league are the Howard Heat, Anne Arundel Pickheads, DC Fire, DC Metro, Montgomery County Hooligans, and PG Fire/Police. All teams are competing for the Heroes Cup, which has been won by the Howard Heat the past two years.

Here is the 2019-2020 MSP Honey Badgers Roster:

- Trooper Kyle Bosley (3)
- TFC. Matt Baum (92)
- S/A Steven Burke (26)
- TFC. Jake Deater (24)
- TFC. Jon Deater (35)
- Pilot Rob DePartee (59)
- TFC. Steve Gallagher (44)
- TFC. Steve Gallagher (44)
- CPL. Todd Iman (7)
- TFC. Brian Key (43)
- SGT. John Krysiak (13)
- TFC. Mike McGee (34)
- S/A Brian McElhenny (27)
- Sgt. John Monarek (18)
- M/TPR. Rob North (10)
- TFC. Kevin Roby (8)
- Major Mike Tagliaferri (33)
- 1/SGT. Tom (9)
- S/TPR. Sean Turpin (30)
- Pilot Curt Tucker (16)
- TFC. Matt Walsh (76)
- Tpr. Brendan White (77)
- TFC. Steve Whittenberg (55)
- S/A Mike McElhenny (78)



IMPACT UPDATE

Completing 2020 Census Forms Can Aid Federal Public Safety Funding for Maryland

(PIKESVILLE, MD) — While the U.S. Constitution requires the nation to conduct a national count of all living people, commonly known as a Census, every 10 years, it impacts the states in many important ways.

The Census determines representation in Congress and impacts local legislative districts. The population count is also the basis for funding critical programs and services and assists local decision-making for economic development, school construction and transportation projects as well as public health, public safety and emergency planning.

Every year, the federal government allocates

more than \$675 billion in funding based on Census data. From a public safety perspective, consider the following funding nationally from Fiscal Year 2015 alone:

- \$1.93 billion for crime victim assistance.
- \$1.72 billion for block grants for prevention and treatment of substance abuse.
- \$475 million for block grants for community health services
- \$94 million for family violence prevention and services/ grants for battered women's shelters
- \$49 billion for safe and drug free schools



and communities state grants

- \$47.6 billion for juvenile justice and delinquency prevention allocations to the states.

Consider this: Every Marylander not counted in the Census costs the state approximately \$18,250 over 10 years. This equates to the state losing \$26.6 billion (based on historical U.S. Census undercount).

Completing your Census form ensures Maryland families, neighbors and communities receive the support they need to live, work, play and grow.

Filling out your Census form is easy and can be done in three ways, by mail, phone — and for the first time ever — online.

Remember, the U.S. Census Bureau must keep all information confidential, including a resident's citizenship, income and other sensitive personal data. All Census information is private and protected by law in Title 13 of the U.S. Code with violations punishable by up to five years in prison and/or a \$250,000 fine.

For more information on the Census in Maryland, visit census.maryland.gov.

The 2020 Census is accessible for everyone.



respond
online



respond by
phone



mail a paper
questionnaire



respond
in person

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